DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 431 182 CS 216 762

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TITLE	Writer to Writer: How To Conference Young Authors. The Bill Harp Professional Teachers Library Series.
ISBN	ISBN-0-926842-79-X
PUB DATE	1998-00-00
NOTE	75p.
AVAILABLE FROM	Christopher-Gordon Publishers, Inc., 1502 Providence Highway, Suite 12, Norwood, MA 02062; Tel: 800-934-8322 (Toll Free); Web site: http://www.christopher-gordon.com/harp.html ($14.95).
PUB TYPE	Books (010) -- Guides - Classroom - Teacher (052)
EDRS PRICE	Document Not Available from EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS	Classroom Environment; *Classroom Techniques; Editing; Elementary Education; Junior High Schools; Peer Teaching; Teacher Behavior; *Writing Evaluation; *Writing Instruction; Writing Processes; *Writing Skills
IDENTIFIERS	*Process Approach (Writing); *Writing Conferences

ABSTRACT

Written for the busy teacher, this book examines classroom writing conferences, one of the most talked about and least practiced strategies in the writing process classroom. Each brief chapter introduces a different facet of the writing conference or the philosophy and classroom practice that undergird it, and each chapter ends with a "something to think about" section to help readers implement the ideas presented. Chapters in the book are: (1) Talking Writing in Writing Workshop; (2) Coach or Editor: What's Your Approach To Teaching Writing?; (3) Writing Conferences as Conversations between Writers; (4) Learning To Talk Writing; (5) What Happens When We Conference?; (6) Learning from the Therapists; (7) Creating Confident Writers: The Effective Use of Praise; (8) How To Question without Interrogating: Using Questions To Focus on Writing Issues; (9) Students Helping Students: Teaching Young Writers To Conference Each Other; (10) Building Editing Skills in Conference; (11) Conferencing To Encourage Revision; (12) Teaching Young Writers To Conference Themselves; (13) Finding Time To Conference; and (14) No Palm Trees in Cincinnati: Establishing an Environment for Teaching Writing. An appendix, by Lois Davila, shares ideas on maintaining running records to keep conferencing running smoothly. (RS)

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